

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00599 161013Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 160920Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3566

S E C R E T LUANDA 0599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJECT: UNITA

1. WHILE ON A VISIT TO MOCAMEDES ON MAY 12, A CONGEN OFFICER TALKED WITH JORGE VALENTIM, THE HEAD OF UNITA IN LOBITO. VALENTIM WAS IN MOCAMEDES IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ROLE AS A LABOR LEADER IN UNITA AND TO INSPECT UNITA OPERATIONS IN MOCAMEDES DISTRICT. HE IS A LEADING FIGURE IN UNITA, A MEMBER OF THEIR CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND HAS A REPUTATION AS A HOTHEAD.

2. VALENTIM REQUESTED USG SUPPORT FOR UNITA, SPECIFICALLY ARMS, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THESE WEAPONS WERE NEEDED TO ALLOW UNITA TO WITHSTAND AN EXPECTED ASSAULT BY MPLA. HE CITED THE LARGE AMOUNT OF SOVIET ARMS SUPPLIED TO NETO AND THE ARMING OF CIVILIAN POPULACE AS INDICATIONS OF THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION. VALENTIM HINTED AT A QUID PRO QUO, MENTIONING THE IMPORTANCE OF ANGOLA TO THE U.S., PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS NAVAL REFUELING. HE ALSO MENTIONED USING PRESIDENT KAUNDA AS A CONDUIT FOR THE WEAPONS.

3. THE OFFICER TOLD VALENTIM THAT HE WOULD RELAY UNITA'S REQUEST TO THE CONSUL GENERAL.

KILLORAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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